DOCKET NO.: CING-0385 (567 US)
Application No.: 09/850,181
Office Action Dated: April 19, 2006

PATENT
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PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-48.   (Canceled)

49.   (Currently amended) A method of ~~identifying a communication path for~~ establishing a communication session, the method comprising:

prior to receiving a request to facilitate establishing a communication session between ~~a device associated with~~ a communication initiator and ~~a device associated with~~ an intended recipient,

at a central location, storing information about multiple communication devices associated with the intended recipient, wherein at least two of the multiple communication devices are each associated with different respective networks in the multi-networked environment;

at the central location, receiving status information regarding the plurality of communication devices from respective networks, wherein the receiving of status information includes:

actively querying one or more of the networks in the multi-networked environment for status information that indicates information other than, or in addition to, whether the multiple communication devices are on or off, or

automatically receiving status information from at least one network element in the first network or the second network, wherein the at least one network element is configured to automatically provide to the central location status information about at least one of the multiple communication devices associated with the ~~user~~ intended recipient, and;

at the central location, receiving [[a]] the request to facilitate establishing the communication session ~~for identifying a communication path for use in establishing the communication between the device associated with the communication initiator and a device associated with the intended recipient~~;

at the central location, in response to the received request, ~~at least assisting in the~~ selecting ~~of~~ a first communication device at which the ~~user~~ intended recipient can likely be

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reached, wherein the selection is based, at least in part, on an evaluation of the received status information; ~~and~~

~~directing a call to the network to which the selected communication device belongs to enable a communication session to be established with the selected communication device~~

causing information associated with the communication initiator to be displayed on the first communication device; and

establishing the communication session between a second communications device selected by the intended recipient and a third communications device associated with the communication initiator.

50.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the storing is performed through an Internet portal site by providing the intended recipient with a predetermined registration procedure to enroll in the service of the method.

51.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the status information that indicates information other than, or in addition to, whether the multiple communication devices are on or off includes an indication of whether the multiple communication devices are currently on-line and when they were last active.

52.   (Currently amended) In a multi-networked environment, a method of determining a communication device at which a user can likely be reached, the method comprising:

prior to receiving a request to facilitate establishing a communication session between ~~a device associated with~~ a communication initiator and ~~one of multiple communication devices associated with~~ the user,

querying different types of networks in the multi-networked environment for status information, or automatically receiving the status information from network elements, wherein the status information pertains to at least two communication devices associated with the user including a first device and a second, different device, wherein the first device is associated with a first network in the multi-network environment, and wherein the second device is associated with a second, different network in the multi-networked environment;

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receiving the status information for the at least two communication devices, wherein the status information includes status information other than, or in addition to, an indication of whether the at least two communication devices are on or off; ~~and~~

in response to [[a]] receiving [[a]] the request ~~for establishing a communication session with one of the multiple communication devices~~, selecting a preferred communication device from the at least two communication devices based on the received status information, causing information associated with the communication initiator to be displayed on the preferred communication device, and handling the request according to a predetermined call treatment procedure if the user elects not to establish the communication session.

53.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the status information includes activity information associated with the communication devices.

54.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the status information includes presence information associated with the, communication devices.

55.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the communication devices include at least two of a telephone, cellular phone, personal computer and set-top box.

56.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the first network is an Internet, a telephone network, a cellular phone network, or a video network; and wherein the second network is a different type of network than the first network and is an Internet, a telephone network, a cellular phone network, or a video network.

57.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the steps of querying, receiving, and selecting occur within an information system configured to communicate with the different types of networks in the multi-networked environment.

58.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the steps of querying, receiving, and selecting occur within an information system configured to

communicate with the different types of networks in the multi-networked environment; and wherein the information system is a unified presence information system.

     59.   (Canceled)

     60.   (Currently amended) An apparatus for facilitating identifying a communication path for establishing a communication session between a requestor and a user, the apparatus comprising:

     a network interface configured for

     querying at least one of different types of networks in the multi-networked environment for status information, wherein the status information pertains to at least two communication devices associated with the user, including a first device and a second device, wherein the first device is associated with a first network in the multi-network environment, and wherein the second device is associated with a second network in the multi-networked environment;

     receiving the status information for the at least two communication devices, wherein the status information includes status information other than, or in addition to, an indication of whether the at least two communication devices are on or off; and

     wherein the querying and receiving occurs independently of receiving a request for establishing a communication session between the requester and the user,

     a storage block configured for storing the received status information; and

     a processor configured for selecting a preferred communication device from the set of multiple communication devices based on the received status information, causing information associated with the requestor to be displayed on the preferred communication device, and establishing the communication session between a communications device selected by the user and a communications device associated with the requestor, wherein the processor performs the selecting in response to receiving [[a]] the request for establishing a communication session with the user.